

## JEAN ELIOT'S LETTER

(Continued from Fourteenth Page.)

no more than to yours, that she, a classic dancer, should be trailing about with a serious minded lady, who is the first and only woman to be president of a Civil Service Commission, and who is now trying to get our Uncle Sam to help us buy cheaper groceries by a national marketing scheme.

Well, that is where the garbage came in. For Maud Allan, who is a blue-eyed, vivacious, rather frail, and very young and pretty woman, brought in that garbage figuratively, when I expressed surprise that she should be interested in matters of marketing and distribution, and all those things that club women and housewives' leagues talk about.

Right back she came with the retort that she ran her own house in London, and that she did her own marketing, and knew what to do with the garbage, and what women could do on a small scale with their own homes they could do on a large scale for cities.

Then this young woman, who reminds me of a school girl, went on with the most thrilling tales of how she had danced in China and Japan, literally danced herself around the world, and how she now is going back to do solo dancing in London in a new series of classical productions.

With all the seriousness of a college girl, just through with her sociology, she told of the effects the European war would have on suffrage, and on women's daily life, and she grew very wrathful. Indeed, when she expressed her indignation that any of her countrymen should have gone out on a strike at this time.

Every one is anxious to see her, Susan, and they are going to get the chance tomorrow when she and Mrs. McLean talk before the Washington Woman Suffrage Council. It was hard work persuading her that anyone would wish to hear a classic dancer talk, or do anything else but dance, but she has consented.

I met Mrs. George Wheeler yesterday, looking ever so smart and attractive, and she told me of the delightful automobile trip she and Mr. Wheeler enjoyed this summer. They motored to Bar Harbor, stopping at numerous places en route; went through Bretton Woods to Lenox, and then, instead of coming home as they had planned, turned around and journeyed up through the Adirondacks, along Lake Placid to Lake Champlain, Lake George, and finally to Plattsburgh. Mrs. Wheeler was with them, and in Maine they picked up her small son, Yandee, who was in a boy's camp. Mrs. Wheeler's mother and sister went along in another automobile, and George Edward Anderson, of Pittsburgh, was also in the party. Altogether they had a royal good time.

Dr. Harvey Wiley is going to give a series of lectures on pure food before the girls who are taking up the study of housekeeping and homemaking at the School of Domestic Arts and Sciences this winter, and John Sherman, Superintendent of Weights, Measures and Markets, is to give them professional advice on how to manage a market basket. Moreover, Congressman Carlisle of Virginia is also on the faculty, and is to give talks on civil government and current topics, so there need be no complaint from husbands-to-be that their little wives are not intellectual companions. Enriqueta Ramona Morales, daughter of the minister of Panama, has decided to take this course, and there are dozens of army and navy girls who are to take up the work as a background for a winter of social as yet.

Traill about the town the last week, Susan, while this wonderful Grand Army reunion has been afoot, I have been led to wonder if there isn't a chance for somebody to standardize the business of decorating our streets, homes, and public buildings for such occasions. There are professional decorators in all cities, who will dress up an amateur or a professional theatrical company to play anything from Greek tragedy to Charlie Chaplin. There are window dressers to make the shop windows sell you things you know you ought to do without; and they sell 'em, too, as my emaciated pin-money account begins to tell me even before my fall buying is fairly begun. Then there are landscapers to fix up your home grounds, and decorators for the house interior, to whom you can turn over the whole business and be sure they will do it better than you could.

But who is there to decorate the town, when it has occasion to dress up for company? Why, Susan, the more I think of it, the surer I am that some clever man—or woman, maybe, would be more appropriate for such a task—could organize the Municipal Decorations Syndicate in Washington and make a good thing of it. Get the business houses to become members, put in a stock of the right materials, organize plans and schemes for development of ideas and effects; have paraphernalia for decoration by day and also by night, and let the whole business be handled

in a systematic fashion. There's no knowing how much it costs to get the town dressed for an affair like the Grand Army week or an inauguration; and when it's all done and the money spent, what's the result?

A frightful heterogeneity of schemes and plans; no two buildings looking as if they were related to each other in any way; nothing but unrelated splashes of color, with, of course, plenty of the tricolor, but always dashed on as if it had been dabbed at the town with some of those "brushes of comet's hair" that Kipling tells us about.

Just think what an effect could be produced in this city if a dozen leading streets and avenues would each adopt for itself a distinctive decorative scheme! Connecticut avenue would lend itself to one plan, Massachusetts avenue to another, the downtown streets would be handled as units, and the blare of three elemental colors would be softened and modified by the introduction of new combinations and methods.

I've been reading in the women's magazines and women's pages of the newspapers about the various odd ways in which smart women invent new businesses of doing things for people that nobody ever thought of. Municipal Decoration Syndicate, then? I am just wondering if it would be something he hasn't tried, that this town could be saved a big lot of money and the people a vast deal of annoyance, through such a system of decoration en masse. While the artistic and spectacular results—well, you can imagine what would result quite as well as I can. Washington, the most beautiful city, would also be, when its company clothes were on, Washington, the best, most tastefully, effectively, artistically decorated city.

Maybe the scheme wouldn't work in Pittsburgh or Chicago, where materials would be ruined after an hour's exposure to the sun. Perhaps it wouldn't be very attractive in towns that don't have to decorate often. But it ought to be welcomed in Washington, why don't you organize the syndicate, Susan, and become a public benefactor? The idea's yours without charge—or anybody's else that may feel like trying it out.

I'm not a very sentimental person, but there was something infinitely appealing in the sight of the thousands of "boys in blue," boys again for the occasion, in town for the encampment. The life and drum corps, with their gallant skirts, clutched at the emotions and the sight of the gray-headed drummer boys, still swagging a bit, brought tears to many an eye. And how game they were! I heard one old gentleman say at the idea that they could not stand the long walk up the Avenue and confess that after he had passed the reviewing stand with a Pennsylvania platoon, he had sneaked down the back streets, joined another corps and marched back again. "And I guess 'bout a hundred of us did the same thing," he said.

Again I heard a fine upstanding old fellow, evidently an aristocrat and accustomed to command, who was strutting down the street covered with medals and glory turn to an elderly darkey, also in uniform, and cry, "Come back here, you black Jackasses, what do you mean by going off and leaving me? Don't you know I brought you down here to take care of me?" And the darkey's voice, "Yass, sah, yass, sah, I've right heah, sah, don't you fret," followed me as I passed by.

But the thing that caused me the most amusement of anything that transpired during the encampment was the tactics pursued by a certain downtown luncheonroom of the A. and A. variety. They added 50 per cent to their prices for the week—save for such old customers as were in the know—had new bills of fare printed for the occasion and least the list of prices printed large on the wall serve as a giveaway—covered them up with American flags! The Star-Spangled Banner, long may she wave!

Yours fondly, JEAN ELIOT.

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## U. S. WARSHIPS READY FOR MIMIC BATTLES

Sea Dogs Straining at Leash at Hampton Roads for War Game Tomorrow.

NORFOLK, Oct. 2.—Uncle Sam's sea dogs are straining at the leash for the opening of the mimic warfare of the annual naval war game tomorrow.

Of the forty naval craft which will participate many of the attacking fleet are already at sea, maneuvering for the assault upon the defensive flotilla. The defending squadron will leave Hampton Roads tomorrow.

While the plans of the war game are being kept closely guarded, it is understood Admiral Fletcher, commander of the fleet, will command the "Red," or attacking fleet, while Vice Admiral Mayo will command the defensive forces.

Admiral Mayo conferred at Washington with Secretary of the Navy Daniels and it was definitely decided to open the war game tomorrow and continue it to the end of the week.

The maneuvers will spread over most of the Atlantic coast, but greatest activity, it is expected, will be on the coast south of the Virginia capes. Tactics and problems prepared by the Naval War College at Newport will be worked out.

## Capital K. of C. to Attend Exercises in Baltimore

Several score Washington Knights of Columbus will go to Baltimore on October 12 to attend the exemplification of the fourth degree of the order. Charles W. Darr is master of the degree.

Cardinal Gibbons will attend and two bishops will receive the degree with the other 200 members of the class. Seventy-five Washington Knights will be given the degree.

A dinner and ball will be given in the Hotel Belvedere following the degree work. This will be attended only by the members of the degree and their wives.

William P. Normay, state deputy of Washington, is chairman of the floor committee, and Edgar M. Ganser, state deputy of Maryland, chairman of the reception committee.

**Finds Petrified Heart.**

RIDGEFIELD, Wash., Oct. 2.—Ernest Hawkins while engaged in hunting for Indian arrowheads and other Indian curios at what is called an old Indian arrow bed along the shore of Lake river, recently picked up an unusual curio, having the appearance of a petrified heart of an infant.

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<b>Lion Brand Castile Soap</b> About 1 1/2-pound bars <b>12c</b>			<b>Aluminum Hot Water Bottles</b> They last forever <b>98c</b>	<b>Rexall Cold Tablets</b> Break up a cold in 12 hours. <b>25c Boxes, 19c</b>	<b>A. P. W. Toilet Paper</b> Best quality "extra large rolls," 4 rolls, a year's supply, for <b>89c</b>	<b>Use Texwax For Sealing Jars.</b> Indispensable in washing clothes. 1 lb. <b>9c</b>	

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1 lb. Powdered Alum..... 10c	1 lb. Epsom Salts..... 5c	4 oz. Florentine Powdered Orris Root..... 10c	4-oz. bottle best Castor Oil..... 10c	Quart can Pompeian Olive Oil..... 65c	1 lb. Compound Licorice Powder..... 25c									

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